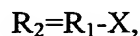


CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

Claims 1-12 (Cancelled)

13. (Currently amended)) A pharmaceutical, nutraceutical, dietetic integrator composition, comprising: a compound of the general formula



wherein X is a primary alcoholic functional group $-CH_2OH$, a carboxylic functional group $-COOH$ or a C_1 - C_4 alkyl ester group,

wherein R_1 and R_2 have a total of from 23 to 35 carbon atoms and R_1 is a saturated linear hydrocarbon chain having from 4 to 15 carbon atoms and R_2 is a hydrocarbon chain having from 8 to 22 carbon atoms which is saturated or unsaturated, ~~including~~ having from one to four ethylenic unsaturations, linear or branched, their pharmaceutically acceptable salts and mono-, di- and tri-glycerides of acids $R_2 = R_1-COOH$, and

a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient for nutritional use in a form suitable for oral administration.

14. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 13, wherein R_1 is a hydrocarbon chain having from 7 to 13 carbon atoms and R_2 is a hydrocarbon chain having from 10 to 20 carbon atoms.

15. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 13, wherein R_1 is a saturated linear hydrocarbon chain having 9 carbon atoms.

16. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 13, wherein R_2 is the hydrocarbon chain of a naturally occurring fatty acid.

17. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutically, nutraceutical, dietetic integrator composition comprising:

a compound selected from the group consisting of:

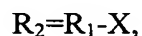
- octacos-10,19-dienoic acid,
- octacos-10,19,22-trienoic acid,
- octacos-1,19,22,25-tetraenoic acid,
- 14,18,22-trimethyltricos-10,13,17,21-tetraenoic acid,
- primary alcohols of [[18]]10,19 octacosadiene, 10,19,[[20]]22 octacosatriene, [[1]]10,19,22,25 octacosatetraene and 14,18,22 trimethyltricos 10,13,17,21 tetraene, and
- C₁-C₄ alkyl ester of
- octacos-10,19-dienoic acid,
- octacos-10,19,22-trienoic acid,
- octacos-[[1]]10,19,22,25-tetraenoic acid, and
- 14,18,22-trimethyltricos-10,13,17,21-tetraenoic acid, and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient for nutritional use in a suitable form for oral administration.

18. (Previously presented) The composition according to claim 17, wherein the C₁-C₄ alkyl ester is an ethyl ester.

19. (Previously presented) The pharmaceutical, nutraceutical, dietetic integrator or cosmetic compositions as defined in claim 13 further comprising anti-oxidant vitamins, carnitine or its alkanoyl derivative.

Claims 20-24 (Cancelled)

25. (Currently amended) A method of treating hypercholesterolemia comprising administering to a patient an oral pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound having the formula



wherein X is a primary alcoholic functional group $-CH_2OH$, a carboxylic functional group $-COOH$ or a C_1C_4 alkyl ester group,

wherein R_1 and R_2 have a total of from 23 to 35 carbon atoms and R_1 is a saturated linear hydrocarbon chain having from 4 to 15 carbon atoms and R_2 is a hydrocarbon chain having from 8 to 22 carbon atoms which is saturated or unsaturated, ~~including~~ having from one to four ethylenic, linear or branched, their pharmaceutically acceptable salts and mono-, di- and tri-glycerides of acids $R_2 = R_1-COOH$, and

a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient for nutritional use in a suitable form for oral administration.

26. (Currently amended) A method for treating hypercholesterolemia comprising administering to a patient an oral pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound selected from the group consisting of:

- octacos-10,19-dienoic acid,
- octacos-10,19,22-trienoic acid,
- octacos-1,19,22,25-tetraenoic acid,
- 14,18,22-trimethyltricos-10,13,17,21-tetraenoic acid,

- primary alcohols of [[18]]10,19 octacosadiene, 10,19,[[20]]22 octacosatriene, 1,19,22,25 octacosatetraene and 14,18,22 trimethyltricoso 10,13,17,21 tetraene, and
- C₁-C₄ alkyl ester of
- octacos-10,19-dienoic acid,
- octacos-10,19,22-trienoic acid,
- octacos-1,19,22,25-tetraenoic acid, and
- 14,18,22-trimethyltricoso-10,13,17,21-tetraenoic acid-

a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient for nutritional use in a suitable form for oral administration.